

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • April 2009

OPC Celebrates 70 Years at April Awards Dinner

EVENT PREVIEW: APRIL 22

by Sonya K. Fry

It is a big anniversary year for the OPC, founded in 1939, and we plan to celebrate the fact that we are the only club in the U.S. devoted to excellence in international news, the fact that we are still here and alive, and the fact that our awards program is robust giving added glory to reporters, photographers, editors, writers and cartoonists.

For work in 2008, the award entries totaled 448, down a bit from the high of 510 for the past two years. However, considering how many media jobs have been lost and how much down-sizing in the industry has occurred, there are still journalists doing international reporting and are eager to win a prestigious OPC award.

A gala occasion has been planned for this year's awards ceremony. The dinner will be held at the Mandarin Oriental hotel, which has a great view over Central Park and mid-town.

OPC President Allan Dodds Frank has selected the President's Award to be bestowed upon Jim Lehrer of The NewsHour on PBS for his outstanding contribution to American understanding of world news. Almost all of Lehrer's career has been in public television most notably in his long term partnership with Robert MacNeil, who received the



Christiane Amanpour



Jim Lehrer

President's Award from then-OPC President William J. Holstein in 1995. The MacNeill/Lehrer Report won more than 30 awards for journalistic excellence. In 1996, on the twentieth year of their

news program together, MacNeill retired and the program was re-named "The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer."

(Continued on Page 2)

Panel Will Feature New Ventures In International News and Reporting

EVENT PREVIEW: MARCH 30

by Sonya K. Fry

The OPC will present a panel discussion on new hopeful directions in international news on Monday, March 30 at 6:30 p.m.

For the past year, the news business has been grim: editors quitting because they refuse to make any more cuts in the newsroom, reporters being laid-off, editorial cartoonists' jobs have been eliminated, entire departments have been cut and top-ranking writers and editors are taking buy-outs. Last summer the OPC office spent a lot of time changing addresses from corporate to home, from office phone to cell phone. Just as everything seemed to be

spiraling out of control and the general economic news was even more grim, a few bright spots began to appear on the horizon.

OPC member Mort Rosenblum, a former special correspondent for the Associated Press for just shy of 40 years, contacted the OPC about a new magazine that he was creating with other ex-pat journalists living in France. While it might seem that producing a new quality magazine fresh on the heels of the major layoffs in the magazine world is truly a crazy idea, *dispatches* was born and the OPC launched it in the New World this past fall with a panel of the founders Mort Rosenblum (editor) and Gary Knight (art director) along with contributors Rod

(Continued on Page 4)

Inside...

Dispatch From Zimbabwe	3
People	5-8
People: Remembered	8-10
10 Rules in Today's Media	10
Press Freedom Committee	11
New Books	12

OPC Celebrates 70 Years at April Awards Dinner

(Continued From Page 1)

Christiane Amanpour, CNN's chief international correspondent, will present the awards. She has worked in international reporting for 18 years and has covered wars, famine, genocide and natural disasters in all parts of the globe. Among her unique achievements are receiving the "Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire" from Queen Elizabeth in 2007 for her "highly distinguished, innovative contribution" to the field of journalism. In 1998, the city of Sarajevo named her an honorary citizen for her "personal contribution to spreading the truth" during the Bosnia war.

This year we have instituted a new award in the name of our founding member, Fay Gillis Wells. It is a credit to the OPC that in 1939, among its founding 13 members, two women were involved, Irene Kuhn (a scholarship is given in her name) and Fay Gillis Wells, a legendary globe-trotting journalist, White House correspondent and aviatrix. A long time OPC member Elliseva Sayers remembered the OPC in her will and urged us to give an award to a woman journalist.

The Fay Gillis Wells Award will not be awarded annually. Instead it will be given when there is such an outstanding recipient, like Ruth Gruber. Gruber has so many accomplishments that it is impossible to categorize her; but to begin, she is

an author, foreign correspondent, photo-journalist and humanitarian. At age 20 she earned a doctorate while an American exchange student in Germany. *The New York Times* said she was the youngest Ph.D. in the world. While a student in Germany she had a unique opportunity to witness the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party. She became a special correspondent for the *New York Herald Tribune*.

Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior under Franklin Delano Roosevelt, sent Gruber to Alaska to make a survey on opening the vast territory for development. Ickes also sent her to Italy on a secret mission to bring 1,000 Holocaust survivors to America. Gruber, of course, wrote a book "Haven" about these experiences which was subsequently made into a CBS mini-series with Natasha Richardson playing Gruber. She has written 19 books in her long career and several of them were OPC Book Nights.

In the years between the end of World War II and the birth of Israel, she covered the displaced persons camps in Germany and Austria and the ship Exodus for the *New York Herald Tribune*. Her photographs of the turmoil surrounding the Holocaust survivors were unique and one of the photos became *Life Magazine's* Photo of the Week. In 1948 she covered Israel's War of Independence and the subsequent waves of immigration to Israel. At



Ruth Gruber

age 97, she continues to publish and makes a full-time career receiving accolades and awards. She is truly a unique witness to the history of the twentieth century. She was a dedicated reporter and photojournalist and at the same time a humanitarian who was able to alert the world to tragedies and injustices.

With three outstanding journalism professionals along with the quality of the OPC's awards, it promises to be an outstanding evening. The event takes place on April 22. Reception begins at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. The member's price for the reception and dinner is \$225 and non-member tickets are \$500. Table prices range from \$5,000 (Friend) to \$8,000 (Sponsor) to \$12,000 (Patron) all of which support the work of the OPC.

OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA • BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PRESIDENT

Allan Dodds Frank
Investigative Journalist

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Arlene Getz
Senior Editor
Newsweek
World Wide Special Editions

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Marcus Mabry
International Business
Editor
The New York Times

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Michael Serrill
Assistant Managing Editor
Bloomberg Markets

TREASURER

Jacqueline Albert-Simon
U.S. Bureau Chief
Politique Internationale

SECRETARY

Jane Ciabattari
Author/Journalist

ACTIVE BOARD

Ron Allen
Correspondent
NBC News

David A. Andelman
Editor
World Policy Journal

Ingrid Ciprian-Matthews
Foreign Editor
CBS News

Roger Cohen
International Writer at Large
The New York Times

George de Lama
Freelance Editor

Chrystia Freeland
U.S. Managing Editor
Financial Times

Klara Glowczewska
Editor in Chief
Condé Nast Traveler

Frederick Kempe
President & CEO
The Atlantic Council

Jim Laurie
Director, Broadcast
Journalism
University of Hong Kong

Kevin McDermott
Managing Partner
Collective Intelligence

Cait Murphy
Writer/Editor

Maggie Murphy
Assistant Managing Editor
People

Calvin Sims
Program Officer,
News Media
The Ford Foundation

ACTIVE ALTERNATES
Chuck Lustig
Director of Foreign News
ABC News

Nikhil Deogun
International Editor
The Wall Street Journal

Tim Ferguson
Editor
Forbes Asia

ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS

Bill Collins
Director, Public &
Business Affairs
Ford Motor Company

Kathleen Hunt
United Nations
Representative
Care International

Minky Worden
Media Director
Human Rights Watch

ASSOCIATE ALTERNATE
David Fondiller
Director of Media Relations
The Boston Consulting
Group

PAST PRESIDENTS EX-OFFICIO

John Corporon
Alexis Gelber
William J. Holstein
Marshall Loeb
Larry Martz
Barrett McGurn
Roy Rowan
Leonard Saffir
Larry Smith
Richard B. Stolley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Sonya K. Fry

EDITOR
Aimee Rinehart

OPC Bulletin
ISSN-0738-7202 Copyright
© 2002
Overseas Press Club
of America

40 West 45 Street, New York, NY 10036 USA • Phone: (212) 626-9220 • Fax: (212) 626-9210 • Website: opc.ofamerica.org

Zimbabwe: Journalism Happens, Despite Perils

by Alaina Varvaloucas and Jerry Guo

As one editor put it for us in an e-mail not too long ago, Zimbabwe is a hot story right now. Rife with economic collapse, a spreading cholera epidemic, and until last month a brutal dictatorship bent on destroying the opposition, the tales that come out of this ravaged nation are too often harrowing.

Clearly, journalism is a touchy subject here, especially if you're foreign. We've read about the BBC correspondent who sneaked into a mental institution, Barry Bearak of *The New York Times* getting arrested last year for "committing journalism," and even the foreigner who is murdered and dumped into Lake Kariba by the secret police. We ourselves were watched by informers while attending the trial of Jestina Mukoko, a peace activist who had been abducted from her home three weeks prior and tortured. She is still in prison.

Because what happened to Mukoko can happen to anyone in Zimbabwe, people are downright paranoid about anything and everything that is said, and as a result we became paranoid as well, lowering our voices to talk on the phone, glancing over our shoulders at Internet cafes, and saving our notes under misleading headings in Word. We are especially worried because we have not paid the thousands of dollars it takes to get accredited in Zimbabwe.

But the truth is that the worst that would probably happen to us is detention, a few nights in a filthy jail, and then deportation. It is the local reporters and stringers who have their jobs, their freedom, and even their lives to fear.

They file daily updates for most of the world's top news organizations. Without them, the Western press wouldn't have nearly as much news as it does, in both quantity and quality. They work long hours, traveling wherever a lead takes them, whether it's downtown Harare or a reservation on the other side of the country. They file dispatches or upload photos daily, even though newsgathering for foreign media is specifically banned.

Yet because local stringers are Zimbabwean, they are subject to Zimbabwean laws, of which very few are respected. They are arrested, beaten, and tortured. Some are simply kidnapped and murdered. The job is stressful, and it's never just a few-week stint after which they can return home to their relatively peaceful countries (like us). The paranoia is life for them; Zimbabwe is life for them. But foreign correspondents posted in Cape Town or New York are no substitute for people who have grown up in Zimbabwe, who know their way around and know where to go to uncover the latest abduction or to investigate famine in remote villages.

Foreigners are also not allowed inside the prisons or in many aid sites — unless they are aid workers themselves. They stand out because of race, accent, or naivete. Often they don't understand historical, cultural or political nuances like locals would, or they make false assumptions.

The local reporters we met handled their tremendous daily stress in different ways. Some work out, some drive around Harare with a beer in hand, some go out dancing at night. They know that not only is their job important for getting the word out about the situation in their country, but also for feeding their families in the midst of economic catastrophe.



Photos: Jerry Guo

OPC member Jerry Guo won the OPC Foundation Reuters Scholarship in 2008. He and Alaina Varvaloucas recently published an article for *The Christian Science Monitor*; these photos accompany the article.

Above: Zimbabwe's luxurious side: Dave Mphele, a middle-man in the economy, is building a new house in the exclusive community of Borrowdale outside the capital city — one of eight homes that he owns.

Below: The other side: Mbare is one of the roughest townships in Harare. The country's unemployment rate runs as high as 80 percent.



The fear is still palpable. As we leave one day after eight hours at the courthouse watching a Jestina Mukoko hearing, we see an SUV behind us with a chief intelligence officer behind the wheel. The journalist driving us is visibly frightened, knowing that what happened to Mukoko could easily happen to him as well. We wonder if the man is tailing us. Then he makes the next turn, and we relax.

With that kind of climate, it's both an amazement and an indicator of good journalism that any story is told. And if anyone is going to tell it, it should be the very people living it.

Event Preview:

(Continued From Page 1)

Nordland of *Newsweek* and John Kifner, the legendary war correspondent for *The New York Times*. *Dispatches* was imagined because committed foreign correspondents were seeing coverage of the world diminished. The founders felt that the public is drowning in a glut of information without direction and that good leaders and editors should be promoting thoughtful discussion of the realities of the world. The quarterly *dispatches* was born out of the need to fill the void in the media with an independent look at challenges facing an imperiled world.

Representing *dispatches* on this panel will be *Washington Post* New York bureau chief Keith Richburg. He has been a foreign correspondent for the *Washington Post* for 18 years and has reported all the major stories of modern history from the hand-over of Hong Kong from Britain to China to the genocide in Rwanda to the fall of the Taliban in Afghanistan. He wrote an essay "Lost in the Shadow of Iraq" in the second edition of *dispatches – beyond Iraq*.

The second bit of good news in media in 2008 was that PBS inaugurated a news show, "World Focus," based strictly on international news. Coverage of what goes on in the world-at-large presented to an American audience shrinks daily, especially when the United States was fixated on the Presidential election for most of 2008 and the war in Iraq grinds on. "World Focus" is anchored by Martin Savidge and picks up reports from news partnerships throughout the world such as Deutsche Welle, ITN, Al Jazeera, ABC of Australia as well as *The Christian Science Monitor* and *The New York Times* which aim to give Americans a new perspective on news and news gathering around the globe.

Marc Rosenwasser, executive producer of World Focus, will appear on the panel and talk about the prospects for producing a low-budget news show while giving the audience a world view. Rosenwasser has produced major network television news for more than 25 years. He also worked for the AP as a Moscow correspondent at the beginning of his career.

A serious international news website called GlobalPost (www.globalpost.com)

aims to be the first American-based website dedicated solely to international news. One of the driving forces beyond this quality web-based news is the *Boston Globe's* former premiere foreign correspondent Charles Sennott. Sennott, as is said at the OPC, is "the real-deal" having been a reporter for 25 years on the front lines of wars and insurgencies from Colombia to Iraq. Several OPC members have also been attracted to working for this unique website including Matthew McAllester, formerly with *Newsday*; Andrew Meldrum, an Africa expert who recently was with the *Economist* and the *Guardian*, Mike Moran who now is executive editor of www.cfr.org, the website for the Council on Foreign Relations.

The mission of GlobalPost is to redefine international news for the digital age while still relying on the enduring values of great journalism: integrity, accuracy, independence and powerful storytelling. The site is committed to featuring under-reported areas of the world and strongly believes in the concept that reporters should live in the countries they write about – no parachuting into a war zone, no "Google-ing" information on a laptop and then re-purposing it to appear newsworthy.

Charlie Sennott, executive editor and vice president of GlobalPost will be one of the panelists who will explain his drive to create quality international news in the digital age. He will also talk about the incredible stable of foreign correspondents he has gathered to produce important news stories.

One of the major topics of the panel will be new models of financial support. For example, GlobalPost is a for-profit enterprise and every employee and correspondent is a shareholder in the company.

Moderating this panel will be David Andelman, editor of *World Policy Journal*. Andelman is a member of the Board of Governors of the OPC and recently authored the book, *A Shattered Peace: Versailles 1919 and the Price We Pay Today* [John Wiley & Sons, 2007]. Andelman has "been around the barn a few times"; he is a veteran journalist and editor who reported from more than 50 countries for *The New York Times*, CBS News, *New York Daily News*, CNBC, Bloomberg News and Forbes.com.

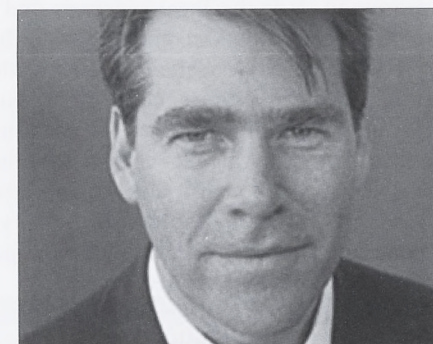
So three areas of news will be represented on the panel – print (*dispatches*), television (World Focus) and the Internet



Keith Richburg, *Washington Post*
New York bureau chief.



Marc Rosenwasser, executive
producer of World Focus



Charlie Sennott, executive editor
and Vice President of GlobalPost

(GlobalPost). The one thing that they all have in common is a desire to commit to the best in international journalism, to use the best resources of foreign correspondents and to find new models of delivery and profit. All the people involved in these ventures are foreign correspondents or editors with a hefty load of credentials who want to continue their craft and are searching for a way to combine quality journalism with a new perspective for a new media age. These committed correspondents have not given up the fight.

The event takes place on Monday, March 30. The reception begins at 6:30 p.m. with panel discussion at 7 p.m. RSVP online (www.opcofamerica.org) or call the OPC office at 212-626-9220.



PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

ATHENS: While he was being interviewed on Antenna-TV February 19, news executive **Abdulhalim Dede** was attacked by an unknown man who shouted obscenities at him. The live broadcast was immediately terminated. Dede, who was hospitalized for several days with his injuries, is known for promoting the rights of Turkish-speaking people in Thrace, Greece. Dede is publisher and director of the newspaper *Türkiye'nin Sesi* and owner of the radio station ISIK-FM in Komotini



Abdulhalim Dede

A week later, a group of masked men wielding iron tools attacked the offices of the newspaper *Apogevmatini*, throwing rocks that damaged the premises and several cars parked outside. And four armed men fired shots and threw a suspected explosive device outside the central offices of TV Alter.

BANGKOK: **Chiranuch Premchaiporn**, editor of the political website Prachatai, was arrested in March on charges that her site carried material that threatened national security. The website "is well known for

carrying content that Thai newspapers will not publish," BBC reported.

Premchaiporn founded the popular website five years ago, and she was charged under a new law that makes it an offense to carry computer content that endangers national security. The charge carries a maximum five-year jail sentence.

BEIJING: **Xu Lai**, a reporter for *The Beijing News*, was stabbed in the stomach by two men while he was in a rest room during a book reading February 14. Also a novelist and blogger, Xu is known for his anti-establishment Web postings which take swipes at government corruption and poke fun at the Communist Party. The attackers fled after threatening to cut off Xu's hand. His wounds were not life-threatening.

CAIRO: Five Egyptian journalists were fined 10,000 Egyptian pounds (about U.S. \$1,803) each on February 26 for violating a court decision that banned media coverage of the trial of **Hisham Talaat Moustafa**, a billionaire businessman charged in the killing of his reputed mistress, Lebanese pop singer **Suzanne Tamim**.

The Committee to Protect Journalists wrote in a statement responding to the fine, "We are dismayed by this latest politically motivated court ruling and call on the Egyptian judiciary to overturn it on appeal."

BAGHDAD: His supporters cheered him as a hero when Iraqi journalist **Muntadhar al-Zaidi** was brought into the courtroom February 19 to face charges after he threw two shoes at President Bush during a December 14 news conference in Baghdad's Green Zone. *The New York Times* reporter **Campbell Robertson** wrote that Zaidi declared, "In that moment, I saw nothing but Bush, and I felt the blood of the innocents was flowing under his feet while he was wearing that smile. I felt that this person was the reason for the killing of my people and I am a part of these people, so I tried to pay him back even a small or a simple part of what he committed."



Muntadhar al-Zaidi throwing his shoe at President George W. Bush.



Nadesapillai Vithyatharan

COLOMBO: **Nadesapillai Vithyatharan**, editor of a Tamil-language newspaper, was arrested February 26 during a funeral on charges he had aided a rebel air attack in Colombo the previous week. The Associated Press reported "the government faced growing criticism for recent attacks on journalists viewed as critical of the offensive against the Tamil Tiger rebels in the north."

FAIRFIELD, Connecticut: The "People" columnist experienced a heart attack December 27 and spent seven weeks in the hospital and a rehabilitation center, cheered by cards, calls and e-mails from **Mike and Sybil Keats**, **Ed White**, **Kelly Smith Tunney**, **Fred Ferguson**, **Aimee Rinehart**, **John Rich**, **Sonya Fry**, **Len Saffir**, **Allan Dodds Frank**, **Dan Morris**, **Bob Page**, **Ted and Marcia Marks**, **Bill Wright**, **John Hlavacek**, **Rikio Imajo**, **Dottie Brooks**, **Don and Maureen Becker**, **Moana Tregaskis**, **Ed White**, **Ted and Femmy Standard**, **Tracy Wood**, **Jim Laurie**, **Roger Cohen**, **Larry Martz**, **Marcus Mabry**, **Minky Warden**, **Jackie Albert-Simon**, **Roy Rowan**, **Arlene and Irv Chapman**, **Maria Ferris**, **Jim Colligan**, **Linda Holmes**, **Jack Casserly**, **Boots Duque**, **Sylvana Foa** and others whose records of cheers were misplaced.

HARARE: Human rights activist and former journalist **Jestina Mukoko** was released from prison March 2, three months after she was abducted

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued From Page 5)

by Zimbabwean security forces. A magistrate granted her bail in the amount of U.S. \$600, and she must report to police twice a week. Before her release, she was taken to a clinic where she was treated for high blood pressure and injuries that doctors said were consistent with torture. She was seized at dawn December 3 by 15 armed men dressed in civilian clothes who burst into her home in Norton, 40 kilometers west of Harare. Mukoko is executive director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project.



Jestina Mukoko

ITHACA, New York: This winter for the second consecutive year, OPC member **Dan Morris** was elected Engineer of the Year by the New York State Society of Professional Engineers.

KENEMA, Sierra Leone: Four women journalists were kidnapped February 6 by members of Bondo, a secret society that practices female genital mutilation. The women were released after one of them was forced to walk naked through the streets.

In a letter to Sierra Leone President Ernest Bal Koroma, **Jacqueline Albert-Simon** and **Larry Martz** of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee, wrote, "This disgraceful episode is unworthy of your country's newly gained status as a functioning democracy." The women had been conducting a series of interviews in celebration of the fifth International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation.

NEW YORK: At least 58 former UPI reporters gathered on February 20 in O'Casey's Pub on East 41st Street near their old world headquarters. As **Don Mullen** wrote, they toasted their days when "everyone was young and willing to work for glory instead of decent wages...in the days of great reporters. Journalists worked for the *Sunday Times* [of London] and drank

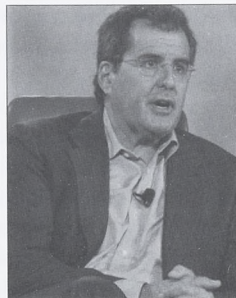
warm sherry." Former foreign correspondents who attended included **Jan Cawley, Mel Laytner, Bill Reilly, Bob Sullivan, Roger Norum, Gordon Joseloff** and **Fred Ferguson**.



Peter Chernin, president and chief operating officer of News Corporation, announced in February that he will leave **Rupert Murdoch's** media empire when his contract expires in June.

"The departure of Mr. Chernin, 57, comes at an inopportune time for the company, which has been hit harder by the economic downturn than some of its competitors because of its exposure to the troubled newspaper industry," **Tim Arango** of *The New York Times* wrote. "Mr. Chernin's exit will now cast a brighter spotlight on **James Murdoch**, Mr. Murdoch's youngest son and the only one of his children with an executive role at the company."

James Murdoch is chairman and chief executive of the company's operations in Europe and Asia. Chernin joined News Corporation in 1989 and has been its president since 1996.



Peter Chernin



James Murdoch



In another development, **Rupert Murdoch** personally apologized in print in the *New York Post*, one of the newspapers he owns, for a cartoon that pictured a cop shooting a chimpanzee and another cop saying, "They'll have to find someone else to write the next stimulus bill." Some people believed that the monkey represented President Obama. The cartoon by **Sean Delonas** reflected two recent news events: a pet chimp that was shot dead after mauling a neighbor woman in Connecticut and

Congressional approval of the \$787 billion economic bill. *The Post* cartoon touched off several days of street demonstrations against the newspaper. In a two-column statement published February 24, Murdoch wrote in part, "Last week, we made a mistake. We ran a cartoon that offended many people. Today I want to personally apologize to any reader who felt offended and even insulted...the only intent of that cartoon

was to mock a badly written piece of legislation. It was not meant to be racist, but unfortunately it was interpreted by many as such."

The **Rev. Al Sharpton**, who led the street demonstrations, took his battle against Murdoch to Washington on February 25, urging Federal Communications Commission officials to lift waivers that allow News Corporation to own two local radio stations and a newspaper in one city, New York.

NYAMIRA, Kenya: **Francis Kainda Nyaruri**, who has written in the *Weekly Citizen* about corruption and malpractice by local police and civil servants, has been murdered. His slashed and decapitated body was found January 29 in Kodere Forest near Nyamira, his hometown. A month before he disappeared, he told friends and colleagues that he had received death threats.

OAK RIDGE, Tennessee: **Carl Warner**, a former UPI correspondent in Latin America, reported to this columnist in February, "At 84, retired but not yet dead. Still teach journalism and photojournalism at Roane State Community College in Oak Ridge." Since retiring from the wire service 20 years ago, Warner has taught at several colleges and universities.

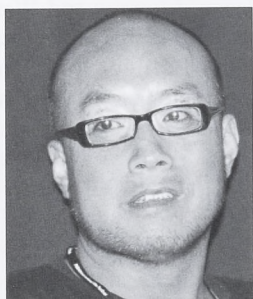
OROQUIETA, Philippines: **Ernesto Rollin**, 40, a presenter on local radio DxsY-AM on Mindanao



Sean Delonas signs his children's book, *Scuttle's Big Wish*.

island, was shot and killed at close range by two men in caps and ski masks at 5:30 a.m. February 23 after he parked his car at a service station. Rollin was in the habit of parking his car there before catching a bus to work. The killers checked to see that Rollin was dead before fleeing on a motorcycle. He was the first journalist killed in the Philippines this year but the 99th since the return of democracy in 1986.

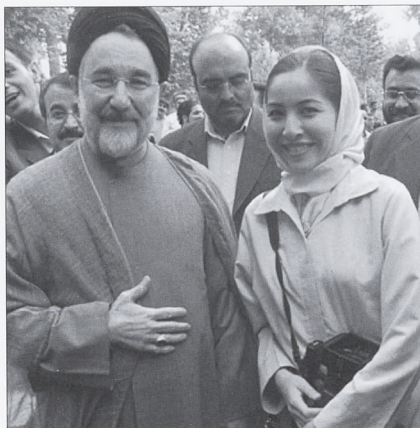
PUSAN, South Korea: Banned in China, the documentary film *Who Killed Our Children?* was premiered at the Pusan International Film Festival this past October. The documentary records the deaths of hundreds of children at Muyu Middle School, killed in the May 2008 Sichuan earthquake. Beijing film maker **Pan Jianlian** took footage and edited it in secret while Chinese authorities attempted to confiscate the footage. In the January-February issue of *The Correspondent* published by the Hong Kong Foreign Correspondents' Club, film critic **Matthew Scott** called it the most disturbing film he has ever seen. Pan is attempting to schedule other screenings of his film.



Director Pan Jianlian

SWAT, Pakistan: **Musa Khan Khel**, 28, a newsman with Pakistan's Geo Television Network and the newspaper *The News*, was shot and killed February 18 shortly after he covered a rally celebrating a peace deal between the Pakistan Army and hard-line Islamic insurgents. The reporter's beheaded body was found in an area controlled by the Taliban in Pakistan's northern Swat Valley.

TEHRAN: **Roxana Saberi**, a former Miss North Dakota who has been a freelance reporter in Iran for six years, was expected to be released from prison in March after she was arrested January 31 when she bought a bottle of wine, illegal in Iran. "The



Roxana Saberi with former President Ayatollah Khatami.

investigation has taken place and she will be released in a few days," deputy prosecutor Hassan Hadad was quoted on March 6 by ISNA news agency. On February 10, she telephoned her Iranian-born father in Fargo, North Dakota and told him she was still in custody. Iran authorities said she was held in Evin prison, accused of reporting in Iran after her press card was revoked. Saberi, 31, a U.S. citizen who also carries an Iranian passport, reported for America's National Public Radio, BBC, Fox News and Feature Story News while pursuing a master's degree in Iranian studies and international relations.

Saberi graduated from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. At the suggestion of **Richard Stolley**, a former OPC president, **Jack Doppelt**, a Medill professor, asked the school's alumni to sign a petition to Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad "to ensure that Saberi has access to an attorney and receives due process." In a letter to Tehran President Mahmud Ahmadinejad, **Norman A. Schorr**, **Larry Martz** and **Kevin McDermott**, co-chairmen of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee, wrote on March 6, "No charges have been brought against Saberi, and her lawyers are not being allowed to visit her...Saberi's arrest [is] a violation of both Iranian law and international legal standards."

TOKYO: The February issue of *Number 1 Shimbun*, magazine of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan, filled two pages with A Japanese Devil's Dictionary, a humor-

ous outtake on things Japanese written by **Ambrosia Pierce** of Oregon. She is working in Mexico on her Ph.D. thesis on demonology in Japanese culture. Examples:

"PEARL HARBOR – Scene of an unfortunate Japanese-American misunderstanding occasioned by the unscheduled arrival of one of the first Japanese tour groups to Hawaii."

"GREATER EAST ASIA CO-PROSPERITY SPHERE – Ambitious plan to share Japan's material and spiritual wealth with the benighted peoples of East Asia, which didn't work out due to the Imperial Japanese Army's somewhat overzealous approach when rolling out the Sphere."

"YASUKUNI SHRINE – Shinto place of worship in central Tokyo where are enshrined the souls of Japan's fallen soldiers, who have agreed to have their tour of duty extended indefinitely into the afterlife so that patriotic politicians can pay their respects to them before the next election. Also a nice place to watch cherry blossoms in spring."

WANA, Pakistan: A score of armed and masked men blew up the press club in Wana, capital of Pakistan's South Waziristan tribal area. On the night of February 17-18, the assailants placed explosive charges around the two-story building and told the night watchman to leave before they activated the explosives. Built with federal funds in 2007, the building was completely destroyed in a blast so strong it was heard throughout the entire town. **Hafiz Wazir**, president of the press club, was quoted by Reporters Without Borders, "It was an attack against press freedom, but that will not prevent journalists in the tribal areas from continuing to inform people."

WASHINGTON: When he was president, George W. Bush almost never recognized Hearst columnist **Helen Thomas** for a question at his news conferences although she was dean of the White House press corps, authorized to ask the first question when she was with UPI. But at his first

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

news conference, President Barack Obama lost no time in accepting a question from Thomas, 88, an OPC member. Then at his nightly "O'Reilly Factor" TV program, host **Bill O'Reilly** compared Thomas's voice with the voice of a witch. For several nights, O'Reilly debated with his TV guests whether he should apologize to Thomas. He thought not.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED



James G. Bellows, left, and Jimmy Breslin catching up in 2006.

Newspaper editor **James G. Bellows** was never a foreign correspondent, but he gave them some advice. "He urged foreign correspondents to dig below the surface of events – to find out, for example, how ordinary Germans lived in the shadows of the Berlin Wall," **Dennis Hevesi** of *The New York Times* wrote. During a 34-year career, Bellows worked at eight newspapers and was editor of *The New York Herald Tribune*, *The Washington Star* and *The Los Angeles Herald Examiner*. Bellows, 86, died of Alzheimer's disease March 6 at an assisted-living facility in Los Angeles, where he lived.

Paul Harvey, 90, a pioneer in radio news and talk radio with a start and pause delivery style who became one of the nation's most familiar voices during nearly 60 years on the air, died February 28 at a hospital in Phoenix, Arizona, near his winter home. He started his national broadcasting career in 1951 with ABC Radio Network and at his peak his twice-daily programs reached more than 24 million listeners on more than 1,200 radio stations. For years he was radio's highest paid host. His syndicated column



Paul Harvey

was carried by more than 300 newspapers, and he wrote seven books. In 2000, he signed a contract that paid him \$10 million over 10 years, and he was still active when he passed his 90th birthday. **Tom Taylor**, editor of the trade site *radioinfo.com* said Harvey "was one of the last voices of an era in radio. In a sense, he was a dinosaur because he outlasted everyone around him."

Fascinated with radio as a boy, Harvey built a receiver in a cigar box. He had early radio jobs in Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri before enlisting in the U.S. Army after the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. With conservative views but rarely strident, he was an early supporter of Senator Joseph R. McCarthy and the Vietnam War. But he switched sides in 1970, opposing the war after President Nixon expanded it into Cambodia. President George W. Bush awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2005. Harvey died less than a year after the death of his wife and longtime producer **Lynne**. The AP quoted their only child, **Paul Harvey Jr.**, "My father and mother created from thin air what one day became radio and television news."

Wilbert A. Tatum, 76, retired publisher of New York's *Amsterdam News*, and father of OPC member **Elinor Tatum**, died February 24 while vacationing in Croatia with his wife **Susan**. Tatum and a group of businessmen bought the *Amsterdam News* in 1971. The Harlem-based newspaper has covered the city's black community for a century, and Tatum was one of the nation's most influential African-Americans. He expanded the newspaper's coverage into international affairs. His daughter **Elinor** now is publisher and editor-in-chief of the

Amsterdam News, one of the oldest ethnic newspapers in the United States. She was appointed to her present position by her father in 1997.

William J. Jorden, 85, a Korean War correspondent who became a *New York Times* diplomatic correspondent and then a diplomat himself, died of lung cancer February 20 in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Jorden, who studied Japanese during World War II when he was a U.S. Army soldier, joined *The Times* in 1952 after reporting from Asia for *The New York Herald Tribune* and AP. He reported for *The Times* from Korea, Japan, Moscow and Washington, and he was a member of the team that won the 1958 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting. In 1961 he joined the U.S. State Department. As ambassador to Panama from 1974 to 1978, Jorden played a prominent part in negotiating the Panama Canal treaties that ceded the canal to Panama. His other State Department assignments included delegate to the Paris peace talks in the late 1960s during the Vietnam War and deputy assistant secretary of state for public affairs. Jorden wrote about treaty negotiations in his 746-page book, *Panama Odyssey* [University of Texas Press, 1984].

The week before Jorden's death, his first wife, **Eleanor Jorden**, 87, a Japanese language scholar, died February 11 at the Connecticut home of her daughter. Eleanor taught at Cornell University for 19 years and then worked at the National Foreign Language Center in Washington, D.C. Before joining the Cornell faculty, she worked for the U.S. State Department's Foreign Service Institute.



William J. Jorden with his first wife, Eleanor, and their son, W. Temple, in Berlin in 1956 as he was leaving for Moscow.

Margaret E. Jaffie, 88, a retired U.S. public affairs officer who led tours of the Voice of America headquarters in Washington during a 20-year tenure, died February 12 at her home in Sun



Margaret E. Jaffie

City Center, Florida. She died after suffering a heart attack during her daily swim. For 16 years starting in 1955, she lived in India, Nepal, Pakistan and China when her late husband, **Robert Jaffie**, was a U.S. Information Agency Foreign officer. She joined the State Department after his death in 1973.



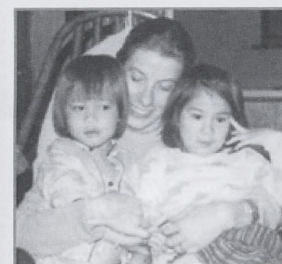
Ralph Harris with President Reagan.

British-born **Ralph Harris**, 87, a Reuters reporter who covered the White House for some 36 years from President Truman to President Reagan, died December 24. He was the first foreign-born journalist to be elected president of the White House Correspondents Association. After World War II service in the RAF in South Africa and working on a British newspaper, Harris, his wife Ena and their daughter emigrated to the United States in 1947. For a few months he was a UPI New York correspondent before joining Reuters Washington bureau in 1949. In 1964, he was assigned full time to the White House. His American colleagues jokingly called Harris "Your Lordship" and "Your Grace," reflecting their fascination with the British class system. He became an American citizen in 1995. London's *Daily Telegraph* wrote that Harris "established himself as one of Reuters' fastest and most adaptable writers with his reports on

Ann Bryan Marino McKay Broke Ground For Woman Reporting in the Battlefields

by Al Kaff

Ann Bryan Mariano McKay, 76, one of the first women combat correspondents to cover the Vietnam War, died of Alzheimer's disease February 25 in Belmont, Massachusetts. Ann was sent to Saigon in 1965 from Germany to open an Asian edition of the *Overseas Weekly*, an alternate to the official *Stars & Stripes*. Her paper upset the brass by reporting on war profiteers, officers involved in the black market and racial prejudices in the Army. When military officials banned sales of the *Overseas Weekly*, the paper filed a lawsuit against the Pentagon, which it won on appeal. Ann left the *Overseas Weekly* in 1971 but returned to Saigon two years later as a freelancer for AP and the *London Daily Express*, covering the 1975 Communist victory. She later was a foreign desk editor and reporter for *The Washington Post*.



Accolades poured in from former Vietnam War correspondents. **Tracy Wood**, who wrote a long obituary on Ann from which this report was lifted: "Known for her determination and gentleness, her battles with the military foreshadowed later personal struggles, the deaths of her first husband and one daughter and the knowledge she was being pulled from life by Alzheimer's."

Joe Galloway: "Ann Bryan Mariano was the consummate investigative reporter during her years in Saigon, digging for the kind of stories that the Military Assistance Command in Vietnam and the generals would just as soon she never found."

Richard Pyle: "She was tough, courageous and utterly professional, and was universally respected by everyone who knew her."

Bob Jones: She was "wonderfully smart but she carried her intelligence in a non-arrogant manner." **Al Webb**: "Ann Bryan was one helluva grand journalist and adored by everyone [at UPI]. She drove the stuffed shirts [brass] absolutely bonkers, and that particularly delighted yours truly."

Ann knew she had Alzheimer's when she co-authored the 2002 book *War Torn: Stories of War From the Women Reporters Who Covered Vietnam* [Random House]. At that time, she could speak but no longer could write, and her chapter was written from memories, letters and recollections by another of the book's co-authors Laura Palmer.

In Vietnam, Ann met **Frank Mariano**, a U.S. Army helicopter pilot who later worked for ABC News. They married in 1972. He died in 1976. She is survived by her second husband, **Robert McKay**, and adopted daughter **Mai**, who provided some of the memories for her *War Torn* chapter.



presidential politics, crises and tragedies through the Korean War, the Cuban missile stand-off, the assassinations of President John Kennedy and Senator Robert Kennedy, Vietnam, Watergate, Richard Nixon's downfall, and the Iranian hostage crisis."

David Rampe, 60, an editor who worked in Europe and Asia for *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street*

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued From Page 9)

Journal, died in New York City December 24. His brain was damaged by cardiac arrest suffered in Paris in January 2008. *The Times* sent Rampe to Paris in 2004 to coordinate *Times* and *International Herald Tribune* coverage. In 1976 when he was with the *WSJ*, Rampe helped launch *The Asian Wall Street Journal* in Hong Kong. During nearly three decades with *The Times*, he worked in the Washington bureau and on the foreign desk in New York where he helped shape coverage of 9/11, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the 2005 London terrorist bombings and Vatican transition from Pope John Paul II to Pope Benedict XVI.



The passing of former *Stars & Stripes* staffers:

Jack Eden, a *Stars & Stripes* reporter during the Korean War, died of colon cancer in a Williamsburg, Virginia, hospice January 17, his 79th birthday. For about 20 years he wrote gardening columns for *The Washington Star*, *The Washington Times* and *The Washington Post* and was host of a gardening program on Washington's WTOP-AM.

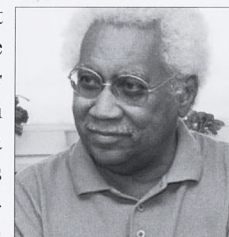
Gary B. Capps, 65, executive director of the *Stars & Stripes* Museum Library in Bloomfield, Missouri, died of pancreatic cancer July 31, 2008 at his home near the museum.



Ronald P. Hatcher, 60, a staff writer and editor of *Pacific Stars & Stripes* in Tokyo and Korea from 1977 to 1982, died in Indianapolis June 19 after battling intestinal cancer. After 23 years in the Army, Hatcher was a freelance sports writer for the *Anderson Herald* in Indiana and a system analyst with the pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly & Company.



Ed Reavis, 73, an award-winning journalist who worked for the European *Stars & Stripes* from 1972 to 1998, died in Germany last year after a lengthy illness. Reavis wrote stories on auto insurance fraud, unscrupulous land salesmen and military malfeasance that led to reforms inside and outside the military.



Holstein's 10 Commandments To, Er, Dislocated Journalists

by William J. Holstein

Journalist and author William J. Holstein provides colleagues with the top 10 ways of coping in today's media world.

1. What happened was a good thing. No one wants to hear about how the evil green eyeshade boys did you dirty. Get over it.

2. You are not unemployed or freelancing. Those words are death. You are exploring exciting business opportunities. You have a burst of ideas. Doors are opening on all sides now that you're no longer trapped in an office. You are independent. You are winning. That's what the world wants to hear.

3. Thou shalt market thyself. You are now an intellectual entrepreneur. What do you really know best or do best? What is your point of differentiation? Figure it out and tell the world.

4. The Network is Thy God. Your connections, associations, friendships and relationships in general are how you will learn about opportunities and how the world will beat a path to your door. Maintain a full schedule of activities at non-profits and professional organizations, and have frequent lunches and dinners with old friends and contacts in the business world. The worst mistake that laid-off journalists make is to retreat and isolate themselves.

5. This is forever. In today's environment, there are no other jobs that are remotely comparable. So adjust accordingly. Create a company, get business cards and stationery, and build a website. Yes, all that costs money, but the alternative is to disappear from the face of the earth.

6. Thou shalt have a portfolio. There is only one way and that way is to create a portfolio of activities that mutually reinforce each other and may actually make money.

7. The purity of your past career is just that — past. It's possible to write books, teach a little, do some freelance journalism, write speeches, consult in the public relations field and get paid for public speaking engagements, all at roughly the same time. The burden of maintaining your ethics is now up to you. You should maintain a personal Chinese wall between activities that may represent the appearance of a conflict. But purists who insist on trying to make a living on journalism alone starve to death. They do not inherit the earth.

8. Thou shalt not send resumes, certainly not in making a first contact. This is so very 20th century, a sign of certain desperation.

9. Keep learning. You may have worked for decades in the media, and may have been at the peak of your career, but a much broader skill set is needed to make it on your own. Learn about managing client relationships, marketing, social media, personal and corporate taxes, and all the other aspects of life as an independent.

10. Learn to manage the three volatilities — time, money and emotion. Bank accounts rise and fall. Time pressures fluctuate wildly between periods of no work activity and intense deadlines. And your personal emotions, including relationships with loved ones, could be affected. Learn to recognize those volatilities — and manage them.

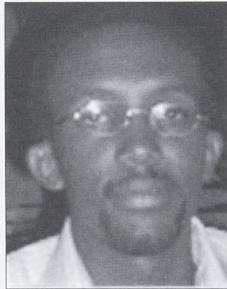
Press Freedom Committee Report February 24, 2009

by Kevin McDermott

When there's good news, we like to lead the Committee's report with it. It may be recalled that in June, 2008, Emilio Gutiérrez Soto, a reporter for *El Diario del Noroeste* in Mexico, fled to the United States. Gutiérrez made enemies in the Mexican Army as far back as 2005 by reporting that soldiers were involved in crimes. On May 5, 2008, several dozen soldiers raided his home (allegedly in search of drugs and weapons). Gutiérrez subsequently reported on the home invasion in *El Diario del Noroeste*. Weeks later, a friend told him the Army had marked him for death. On June 15, Gutiérrez entered Columbus, NM, with his son and they identified themselves to the U.S. border patrol. They were arrested, and Gutiérrez was sent to federal prison in El Paso.

Over the next five months, repeated appeals for his release were denied. On December 5, the Freedom of the Press Committee of the Overseas Press Club of America approached Robert E. Jolicoeur, the field office director for the U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement in El Paso, Texas. The Committee vigorously argued the case for Gutiérrez. In January, Reporters Without Borders added its voice. On January 29, Gutiérrez was released pending an immigration hearing in March.

Since our last meeting, we were among several media rights groups around the world who protested to President Hugo Chávez on the continuing pattern of press freedom violations in Venezuela. The most serious in recent months was the assassination of Orel Sambrano, editor of the political weekly, *ABC*, in Valencia on January 16. Sambrano had been covering drug trafficking in Venezuela, including a case involving the influential Makled family. He was also vice president of the privately owned radio station, Radio America, and was a columnist for the regional daily, *Notitarde*.



Francis Kainda Nyaruri

In addition, we struggled to put into words a finally inexpressible horror at the brutal murder in Kenya of Francis Kainda Nyaruri, whose slashed and decapitated body was found January 29. Nyaruri wrote for the *Weekly Citizen* newspaper, and had recently produced a series of articles exposing financial scams and other malpractice by the local police department. As we told Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki, the possibility that members of the local police force in Nyaruri may have been involved in the killing only adds to the horror of his murder.

We wrote to Sierra Leone to protest the abduction of four women journalists by members of Bando, a secret society that practices female genital mutilation. The reporters had been interviewing townspeople in Kenema about genital mutilation, and the Bando members saw this as disrespectful of their traditions. They forcibly undressed one of the reporters, Manjama Balama-Samba of U.N. radio, and made her walk naked through the streets. We told President Ernest Bal Koroma that this incident called into question his recent boast that Sierra Leone is now a "shining example" of a stable African country, a place where "one can find paradise on earth."

Finally and inevitably, we have written – again – seeking justice for Anna Politkovskaya, murdered in Moscow, as you know, in 2006. Last week, the four men accused in the killing were all acquitted. The only possible reaction is indignation, and we said as much in a communication to Russian Prime Minister Putin and President Medvedev.

Given the incompetent investigation of Politkovskaya's murder and the bungling prosecutors in the case – who managed to lose vital

bits of evidence in the course of the trial – we observed that we could not fault the jurors for their verdict. The defendants were, in any case, peripheral figures in the conspiracy. From the beginning, the investigation of Politkovskaya's killing has skirted the single most important question: Who ordered it done?

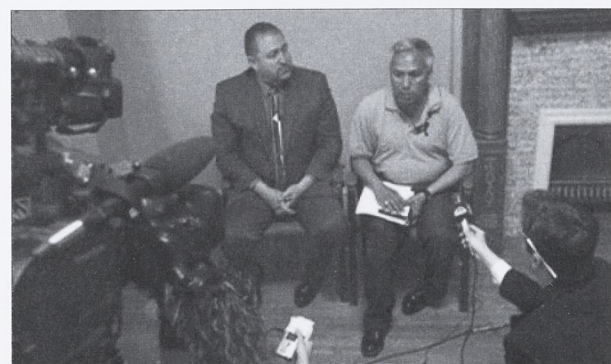
The only bright spot, if it can be called that, is that the presiding judge in the Politkovskaya case ordered it re-opened the day after the acquittals, promising that he would give investigators material evidence.



Orel Sambrano, editor of the political weekly *ABC*.



Anna Politkovskaya



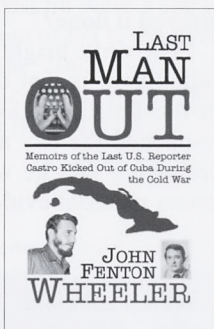
At a news conference, Emilio Gutiérrez Soto with his lawyer.

New Books

CARIBBEAN

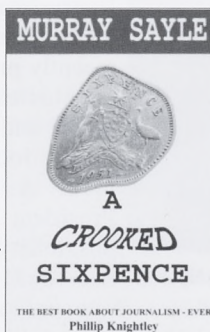
IN THE 1960s, AP's HAVANA bureau was located in a decrepit, non-air-conditioned office, and correspondent **John Fenton Wheeler** filed on a cranky Western Union machine, drove a borrowed Volkswagen and failed in many attempts to interview Fidel Castro. Wheeler describes his assignment to Cuba in *Last Man Out* [Spokane, Washington: Demers Books]. "If you wanted an official quote, you had to try and dig one out of somebody," Wheeler wrote. "And if you got an anti-Castro quote invariably you were asked by the person who spoke not to use his or her name."

Wheeler and his wife **Ann** were expelled from Cuba in 1969 after he wrote a story on a government claim that officials had caught a Mexican diplomat spying for the United States.



EUROPE

A NOVEL ABOUT LONDON'S yellow journalism in the 1950s, *A Crooked Sixpence*, was withdrawn shortly after it appeared 47 years ago because of a libel threat. Publishers of the 1961 book, MacGibbon and Kee in London and Doubleday in New York, pulled all copies from sales and pulped them. Written by retired Australian foreign correspondent **Murray Sayle**, the book has been republished by Revel Barker Publishing of London. The novel tells the story of an Australian journalist who writes for a Fleet Street Sunday newspaper. The reporter exposes vice racketeers and writes a five-part series about a girl from the provinces who winds up living a life of shame in London. **Roy Greenslade** wrote in *The Guardian*, "Every journalist should read *A Crooked Sixpence*." Sayle, now 82 and in frail health, worked on Fleet Street in the 1950s before a long career reporting from Europe and Asia.



BRIEFLY NOTED

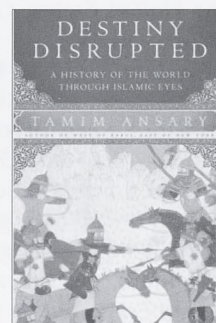
These books are scheduled for release this spring by PublicAffairs, New York:

Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles, a guide to sub-Saharan Africa

past and present by **Richard Dowden**, former Africa editor for *The Independent* and then *The Economist*.

Bring Me My Machine Gun, an account of post-apartheid South Africa by **Alec Russell**, world news editor at the *Financial Times* and formerly its Johannesburg bureau chief.

Destiny Disrupted, a history of the world through Islamic eyes by **Tamim Ansary**, a writer for many publications including *Parade*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*.



The Media Relations Department of Hizbollah Wishes You a Happy Birthday, by **Neil MacFarquhar**, former *New York Times* bureau chief in Cairo whose book is a portrait of the Middle East he has known since childhood.

Enough, a report on why the world's poorest people starve in an age of plenty by **Roger Thurow**, a *Wall Street Journal* foreign correspondent for 20 years, and **Scott Kilman**, the *Journal's* agricultural reporter.

— by **Al Kaff**

Coming Up...

Panel Discussion
**New Ventures in
International Reporting**
Monday, March 30
Reception, 6:30 p.m.
Talk 7 p.m.

**70th OPC
Awards Dinner**
Wednesday, April 22
Reception, 6 p.m.
Dinner 7 p.m.

Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA